Implementation of Mahakali Treaty

5317. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 379 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th April, 2002 and state:

(a) whether both India and Nepal have agreed to give priority to implementation of Mahakali Treaty;

(b) whether during the Nepalese Prime Minister's visit to India any agreement has been reached in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. During the recent visit of PM Deuba to India from March 20—25, 2002, the two Prime Ministers noted that considerable work had been done on the field investigations for the Joint Detailed Project Report of the Pancheshwar Multipurpose Project. They agreed that all out efforts should be made to complete a Joint DPR before June this year.

Declaration of persona-non-grata by Pakistan to Indian Diplomat

5318. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two officers of Indian High Commission in Pakistan were declared as *persona-non-grata* by Pakistan because of their alleged involvement in the attack on a church in Rawalpindi;

(b) if so, whether Government have vehemently denied the charge and lodged a strong protest to the Government of Pakistan; and

(c) if so, Pakistan Government response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (c) Two officials of the Indian High Commission in Islamabad were declared persona-non-grata by Pakistan Government in March, 2002 allegedly "on account of their

involvement in activities incompatible with their official status as defined in the Vienna Convention of 1961 on Diplomatic Relations" and asked to leave Pakistan within seven days time. Government, however, rejected the allegations as totally baseless.

India and EU's joint fight against global terrorism

5319. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and the 15-nation European Union have decided to work together more closely to fight against global terrorism in the coming years;

(b) if so, whether India-EU Summit's Joint Declaration was signed recently;

(c) if so, the details of the steps being considered in this regard; and

(d) to what extent both India and EU have been successful in fighting terrorism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India and the European Union are committed to strengthen co-operation against international terrorism. The Declaration against International Terrorism which was adopted at the second India-EU Summit on 23rd November in New Delhi reiterates the commitment to fight international terrorism, wherever it occurs and regardless of its motives.

(c) and (d) India and EU have been cooperating closely to counter the menace of international terrorism within the framework of the biannual India-EU Joint Working Group on International Terrorism. India and EU are committed to fully implement the concerned UNSC. Resolutions to support the adoption of measures against all States, individuals and entities, which render support, harbour, finance, instigate or train terrorists or promote terrorism. The EU has also frozen the funds of Jaish-e-Mohammad and Harkat-ul-Mujahideen (HUM). Recently, EU also included Babbar Khalsa, Internaitonal Sikh Youth Federation and Lashkar-e-Toiba in the EU list of terrorist organisations.